

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU



Patricia Michalak, MA
Youth Service Bureau Coordinator

DRAFT

**Mansfield YSB Advisory Board
Minutes**

Tuesday June 8, 2010
12:00pm at Mansfield Town Hall
Conference Room B

Board Members

Present:

Ethel Mantzaris, Chair
Frank Perrotti, Co-Chair
Patricia Michalak, YSB Coordinator
Kathleen McNamara, YSB Senior Social Worker
Kevin Grunwald, Director of Human Services
Candace Morrell, Assistant Principle MMS
Eileen Griffin, LCSW
Jay O'Keefe, Parks & Recreation
Jerry Marchon, Police Officer
Amber Hoyt, EO Smith Student
Lauren DiGrazia, Graduate MSW Intern

Guests: Tara Martin (Willington YSB director), Melissa McDonough (Ashford YSB director), Crystal Morawitz (Coventry YSB director), Chuck Leavens (EO Smith Crisis Counselor), & Lou DeLoreto (EO Smith Principle)

Proceedings

- Meeting called to order at 12:01pm by Chair, Ethel Mantzaris
- May 11, 2010 meeting minutes were accepted and approved
- Patricia Michalak, YSB Coordinator
 - Patricia Michalak welcomed the three YSB directors and thanked them for coming. She explained to the board that she is hoping this connection will help in sharing services between the towns and in providing support for one another.
 - Patricia Michalak also thanked all of the participants on the board for their dedicated service and support.
 - Patricia Michalak also gave an update on the enhancement grant money that was received. It will be used in the following ways:
 1. Ken Keys, former EO Smith guard, will be working one-on-one with one of our young men to mentor him this summer. The police will also be involved in this case.
 2. Ken Caputo, Villari's Martial Arts of Storrs, will receive some of the funds for the work he does with LEAP and mentoring some of our children.
 3. Janit Romyko, facilitator of the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren's group, will receive some of the money for the work done with this group.

- *New Business:*
- The YSB organization relationship with EO Smith High School
 - Ethel Mantzaris, Chair, began the discussion with Lou DeLoreto, EO Smith Principle, about how the YSB advisory board could help out the high school.
 - Cyrstal Morawitz, Coventry YSB director, discussed how she felt that there was a gap with the Coventry students at EO Smith.
 - Chuck Leavens, EO Smith Crisis Counselor, discussed how the Dr. Haney transition group was a step in the right direction this last year of bridging the gap between clinical services of MMS students and EO Smith students.
 - Chuck Leavens also stated that kids need support and they want to provide it to their students and work with the YSB directors to assist in the process.
 - Crystal Morawitz mentioned that she has a job training program for Coventry youth and she didn't know the best way to contact her EO Smith students.
 - Lou DeLoreto addressed this inquiry by stating she should contact the department head for Agriculture Education.
 - Jay O'Keefe, Parks & Recreation, made mention that the teen center is a free component of the community center and is open to all of the towns. Participants need to fill out a short form and have a parent's signature.
 - It was left that the four YSB representatives would get together to see what they can offer to the EO Smith population. Then they will reconvene with the EO Smith representatives to work out a plan so that there is consistency and expectations are clear to all parties involved.
- Ethel Mantzaris, Chair, made note that Kathy Ann Easley did not attend the meeting today and this is the third time she has not shown up to the meeting.
- Coalition discussion
 - The YSB representatives need to make a decision as to whether or not they want to continue the coalition on underage drinking
 - The previous grant was used for a few things one being the development of a website
 - Kevin Grunwald, Director of Human Services, stated that there are two options if the YSB representatives want to pursue the grant or coalition:
 1. Maintain coalition – there would need to be 12 specific sectors that need to be a part of the coalition
 2. Maintain the grant
 - The YSB representatives will meet after this meeting to discuss options
- Jerry Marchon, Police Officer, developed a hand out regarding LIST that was not really discussed due to the time of the meeting
- A reward recognition was handed out to Amber Hoyt, EO Smith Student, for her long time dedication to the YSB advisory board.

Meeting adjourned at 1:18pm

Minutes submitted by Graduate MSW Intern, Lauren DiGrazia